

REMARKS

The Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 34-35 and 38-40 if they are rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any remaining claims. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance. Toward that end, claim 34 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 31, claim 35 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 31 and claim 38 has been amended to include the subject matter of intervening claim 37 and independent claim 31. As such, claims 34, 35 and 38 are all independent claims with claims 39 and 40 depending from claim 38. Claim 40, line 4, has been amended to correct a minor typographical error by deleting the word "an" and replacing it with the word --a--. Applicant believes that these claims are now in a condition for allowance and action to that effect is hereby earnestly solicited.

Separately, referring to claims 31, 32, 33, 36 and 37, Applicant believes that these claims, as amended, are also in condition for allowance. More particularly, the Examiner has rejected these claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) in view of Bodnar, Patent No. 7,072,688. The Examiner indicates that all of the subject matter of these claims is shown in Bodnar. Applicant has amended claim 31 to more particularly indicate and highlight the differences between Bodnar and the present invention. Most notable and as is pointed out by the Examiner at page 5 of the Office Action, claim 31 has been amended to more particularly indicate that there is a direct coupling and docking between the portable computing device and the removable communication apparatus. A review of Bodnar indicates that a docking module 10 is provided with both electronics and mechanical connections to allow the portable computing device and the removable communication apparatus interaction. Inasmuch as the present invention provides for direct interaction between the parties free of any docking module, it is Applicant's position that claim 31 overcomes the prior art and is in a condition for allowance. Inasmuch as claims 32, 33, 36 and 37 all depend from claim 31, allowance of those claims is also earnestly solicited.

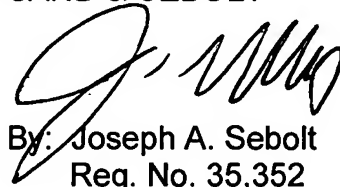


Applicant has added a number of new claims, 41-50, which Applicant also believes are allowable in view of the above-referenced arguments.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims and most earnestly solicits the issuance of a formal notice of allowability for the claims. Please call the undersigned attorney if any questions remain after this amendment.

Respectfully submitted at Canton, Ohio this 9th day of April, 2008.

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